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Bulgarian Army

1. The strength of the Bulgarian armed forces is as follows:
 - a. Army, including Trudovaks: 203,500;
 - b. Air Force: 11,000; and
 - c. Navy: 3,700.
2. The Bulgarian infantry is now completely equipped with standard Soviet rifles; however, there is no standardization as regards machine guns or machine carbines. The old German 9 mm. submachine gun is still very much in use.
3. In addition to 650 tanks, the Soviets have turned over to Bulgaria approximately 500 armored cars and approximately 1,500 trucks and staff cars most of which are Czech made.
4. Practically no ammunition has been supplied by the Soviets; what little has been provided is for special training purposes. Bulgaria is expected to produce her own ammunition, at least for her peacetime requirements. Bulgaria has ammunition factories at Momchilgrad, Kazanluk, and Karlovo. The factory at Kazanluk, which is the most important, is a former chemical plant which has been converted.¹ It normally employs 9,000 workers; however at present there are less than 5,000 because factory equipment has not arrived.
5. There are no guided missile sites or training establishments in Bulgaria, but a few Bulgarian officers have attended experiments in the USSR. No further details available.

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6. There is no bacteriological warfare station in Bulgaria and no training of this sort, even theoretical, is ever given. However, some Bulgarian scientists, but no Army officers as far as is known, have been sent to Hungary to take courses in bacteriological warfare.
7. The morale of the Bulgarian Army is excellent, and although there are undoubtedly a number of anti-Communists in the Army, they keep very quiet and it is impossible to estimate their strength. It is believed, however, that even anti-Communists would fight well in a war against Greece or Turkey.

Soviet Mission

8. The strength of the Soviet Mission in Bulgaria varies considerably from time to time, but is seldom above approximately 2,300. By far the largest element is Air Force, which has 1,250 members. The Soviet Mission is comprised of four categories:
 - a. Control officers;
 - b. Advisers;
 - c. Instructors; and
 - d. Technical experts.
9. Instructors work in teams of approximately six men and visit units and establishments throughout the country, giving demonstrations and holding short courses on various weapons. Technical experts are chiefly concerned with construction of airbases, factories, etc.; MVD officials are also included in the technical experts category.
10. The relations with the Soviets are, generally speaking, normal and friendly. The average Bulgarian Army officer does not feel any particular resentment. This is in marked contrast to the relationship between Soviets and Rumanians. Soviets behave far better in Bulgaria and treat the inhabitants with far more respect and can, because of the language similarity, converse more freely.

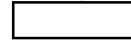
Planning

11. No strategic stockpiling, either Bulgarian or Soviet, which would indicate any intention of a war in the near future, has taken place. In all directives and discussions it is evident that the Soviet Mission is only considering long term plans; plans concerning a possible war this year have seldom been mentioned and even immediate defense requirements are a very secondary consideration.
12. The Bulgarian General Staff and Soviet Mission are organizing the peacetime unit locations and establishments along the lines of the probable method of attack in a future war. In general terms, this will be to use the majority of the armor and 50 percent of the infantry against Greece and Turkey, and most of the Air Force and the remaining 50 percent of infantry against Yugoslavia. The reorganization of locations is not yet complete.
13. Of the three potential enemies, the Turks are considered to be by far the most difficult adversaries, the Greeks somewhat less tough though well-equipped, while

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the Yugoslavs are considered to be grossly under-equipped and hardly in a position to put up a fight in the open field at the present time.



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